

Serial No.: 09/787,083  
Group Art Unit: 1645

# 9B 2/23/02  
T. Bray



**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITH SUFFICIENT POSTAGE AS FIRST-CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON

JANUARY 14, 2002

*Teresa O. Bittenbender*  
TERESA O. BITTENBENDER, REG. NO. 47,425  
AGENT/ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

*January 14, 2002*  
DATE

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Attorney Docket No. BM45332

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Ruelle, et al.

Serial No.: 09/787,083

Filed: May 14, 2001

Group Art Unit No.: 1645

Examiner: Ford, V.

For: BASB Outer Membrane Protein of Neisseria Meningitidis

Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

This Response to Election Requirement and Preliminary Amendment (hereinafter referred to as "Response & Amendment") is responsive to the Office Communication mailed December 11, 2001 (Paper No. 7) (herein referred to as "Office Action"). Applicants respectfully request entry of this Response & Amendment.

This Response & Amendment is believed timely filed with payment of a one (1) month extension of time. Should this Amendment not be considered timely filed, Applicants hereby request a retroactive extension of time to file for the number of months required to maintain pendency of the Application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-0258.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> If an Extension is deemed necessary, please consider this Paper to comprise a Petition for such an Extension.